

The BUZZ WORD

Volume

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10

Sept 2019



"FULFILLING THE PROMISE"

www.vvh.vermont.gov



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

Fulfilling the Promise

The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on insuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.

VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.

For any Further Questions Please Contact:

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802-447-6523**



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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From the Administrator... Melissa Jackson



Have you heard the news!!!

VVH received a **deficiency free annual survey** from the Department of Licensing and Protection. The results of this inspection are a direct reflection of the great care our staff provides each and every day. During their 3-day visit at VVH, the inspectors observed medication pass, meals, activities, care, and met individually with many of our Veterans, Members and family members. One thing that really impressed the survey team was the fact that the staff did not get anxious or nervous when the survey team was on the floor, they just remained focused on doing their jobs. The survey team was also impressed with how all the staff interacts with our Veterans and Members.

I am so proud of each and every staff member. Healthcare can often be a thankless job and these survey results help to reinforce what a great job they do. Please take a moment, during your next visit, to congratulate them on a job well done.

Melissa A. Jackson, BSW, LNHA, FACHCA

Chief Executive Officer

Vermont Veterans' Home

www.Vvh.vermont.gov



The
Barber
Shop
Quartet



50th Anniversary of the War in Vietnam

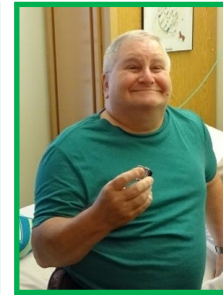
Vietnam Veterans receive commemorative pins from Robert Burke, Director of the Office of Veterans Affairs.



Willy Rimany



Jack Spakes



Paul Lyman



Phil Sargent



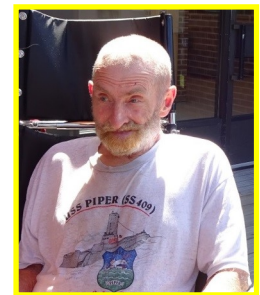
Steve Noel



John Tremblay



Ray Gralenski



Bob Holden

Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin—A Lasting Memento of The Nation's Thanks

Purpose: to recognize, thank and honor United States military veterans who served during the Vietnam War

Eligibility: Living United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin.



Symbolism:

EAGLE-The Eagle represents courage, honor and dedicated service to our nation. As one of the most recognizable and notable American symbols, it is emblazoned with distinction on numerous military insignia.

BLUE CIRCLE-The color blue matches the canton of the American flag and signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice. The circle shape and blue color also match the official seal of the Commemoration.

LAUREL WREATH-A time honored symbol representing victory, integrity and strength.

STRIPES-The stripes behind the American flag.

STARS-The six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed and fought alongside one another: Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and the United States.

MESSAGE-"A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You" is embossed on the back, closest to the heart of the wearer. Also, the official name of the Commemoration is included to remind each veteran that this is a national initiative, and this lapel pin is the nation's lasting memento of thanks.

FLU NEWS

Patricia Babcock, Infection Control

Already we are getting ready for our flu campaign, hard to believe!

Acknowledgements have been sent to residents and families, please return as soon as possible as the flu vaccine is generally given in October and it takes 2 weeks for the vaccine to start working.

Don't think of it as getting a flu shot. Think of it as installing virus protection software.

We want you to be healthy and prevent this:



A couple of questions asked re/ 2019-2020 influenza season: (From CDC)

What viruses will the 2019-2020 flu vaccines protect against?

Answer: There are many different flu viruses and they are constantly changing. The composition of the US flu vaccines is reviewed annually and updated as needed to match circulating flu viruses. Generally, the Flu vaccines protect against the 3 or 4 viruses that research suggests will be most common.

How much flu vaccine will be available this season?

Answer: Flu vaccine is produced by private manufacturers, so supply depends on manufacturers. For the 2019-2020 season, manufacturers have projected they will provide between 162-169 million doses of vaccine just for the U.S. market, (however, projections may change as the season progresses).



HARTFORD VOLUNTEERS Fife & Drum Corps from UNDERHILL, VT



In Memory of
Paul Tenney

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION—Melissa Jackson, CEO, and Gary DeGasta, Board of Trustees Vice President, were please to acknowledge:



Barbara Reilly, 42 years
and Rae Ann Woods, 31
years with Activities



Denise Chiorgno, 30 years Nursing
and Jon Endres, Environmental
Services, 5 years



Walter Felladore was presented
with a plaque for his 15 years of
dedicated service in the CHL
department.



**Thank
You!**

**On behalf of the Veterans/Members, we
sincerely thank the following for their
generous donations.**

Wanda McGrath
Phil Steadman
Donna Burgess
Phyllis Molloy
Renee Nooney
Beverly Gillooly
Judy Barrows
Catherine Reed
Richard Vachon

Marlys Lemnah and Gina Nessler
American Legion 4th District Funds
Bennington Lions Club
Marty Rosenthal
John Burnham
State Line Car Club
Joel Whiting

VT State Assoc. of Emblem Clubs
Franklin & Elaine George
VFW District #1, Dept of VT
Brian Maroney, Jr. - The Throwbacks
Living Sober
Dept. of VT Auxiliary VFW
VFW B.P.O.E. 567
Pownal American Legion Auxiliary
VFW Post 1332
DAV Auxiliary, Bennington Chapter #4
VFW District #4
Phyllis and Rhonda Roberts

In Memory of Alice Young

Susan Whitney
Ben and Rose Cummings



*Thank you,
Robert Houran for your
Donation on behalf of the
State Line Car Club.
Congratulations on another
excellent Car Show this year!*

**Show your Support at the
VVH Apparel Store!**

T-Shirts-\$15	Sweatshirts-\$25
Sweatpants-\$20	Zip Hoodie-\$35
Polo Shirts-\$25	Baseball Cap-\$20
Winter Hat-\$12	Scarf-\$12
Ornaments- \$8	VVH Pens-\$3
Small Totes- \$15	Large Totes-\$20
Wind Breakers: Unlined: \$23 - \$27	Lined: \$27 - \$31

From Deputy Administrator—Colonel Al Faxon

First, I would like to extend congratulations to our staff for earning a zero-deficiency survey during our inspection in August. You are amazing people; I am honored to work with you!

I would like you all to raise your right hand... and say an oath to become part of the Vermont Veterans' Home Marketing Team! Within the last year our referrals have skyrocketed, and the reason is all of you... Veteran, Member, and Employee. We want all Vermont Veterans to know about our amazing Home!



If you are aware of a Veteran who requires the services we perform, what better place for them than our home...

The Vermont Veterans' Home. VVH is the premier Veterans' facility in the country, and as a team working together, we will get the word out.

Semper Fi"
AF



USS Bennington PACT picnic



THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:
www.vvh.vermont.gov
Click on About Our Home
Click on Newsletters
- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List

To be added to our lists please contact:

The Buzz Word
Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201

Robyn Boland
(802) 447-6523
Email: robyn.boland@vermont.gov

VVH WISH LIST

I-Pod Shuffles
(4th Generation)



Pinball Machine/Game
Neck Pillows Body Pillows
CD Players I-Tune Cards
Costume Jewelry Stamps
Newspaper Subscriptions Outdoor Benches
(New) Men's Belts and Suspenders
Earphones for TV and Music
Two pocket front wheelchair/walker bags

**Please make check for monetary donations
out to Vermont Veterans' Home:**

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Your donations are gratefully accepted.

THANK YOU

We are looking for people with music talent and or special talents of any kind who would like to give time to our veterans and members on our special care unit. Please contact Michele Burgess at michele.burgess@vermont.gov or call 802-447-6520.

DONATION INFORMATION

Your donations are gratefully accepted.
Please make check out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please indicate to which fund(s) you are donating:

Members Assistance:

Directly to Veterans/Members
Furniture, Haircuts, Clothing
Other personal needs

Namaste Program Fund:

Oils for relaxation
Supplies, Equipment

Unrestricted Fund:

Facility equipment
Large purchase

Activities Fund:

Entertainment

Music & Memory Fund:

iPods, Headphones, iTunes cards

NEW: Veteran's Mobility Trail

Monetary donations toward
a paved walkway around
the perimeter of the VVH

PLEASE NOTE:

**** We will NOT BE ACCEPTING
books, magazines, VCR tapes or
clothing at this time. THANK YOU
to all who have donated to our
Veterans at VVH.**

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Howdy Folks,

Sorry I failed to get a Chaplain's Message into the August Buzz Word. I have no excuse, but a number of reasons. Anyway, just because there was no message does not mean God was not present in every one of your lives. God does not fail like us human species. He is ever-present and lives inside each of us. We simply have to activate His presence by acknowledging our surroundings - the sunrise, sunset, the flowers, the clouds, the Vermont mountains, rivers and streams, and through our associations with those around us. Deep within ourselves we all have some awareness of God's eminent presence. When we are stressed for whatever reason, instead of desperately striving to maintain order and control of our little world, simply relax and remember that circumstances can not touch God's peace. Take a moment to shut out everything else and listen for God's still and silent voice. Try it, you'll like it!



In visiting and counseling the many believers at The Vermont Veterans' Home, I can sense how they feel God's joyful presence even in their hurt and pain. They are able to cope knowing that God shares their trials and tribulations. They know, as I do, God is with us no matter our circumstances. These folks inspire me with their faith and spiritual endurance. God bless them.

Please pray for our troops and their families throughout our world. Have a joyous and peaceful Labor Day holiday.

God bless and keep us all, Chaplain Ken

TWIG REMEMBERS... John B. Smith

He came from a very athletic family – two brothers were on the Shrine football team and the other was a power forward on a Slater State Champs team in basketball.

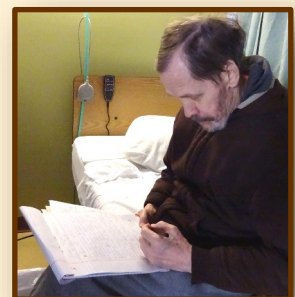
When John was a sophomore, the starting offensive guard went down to injury and John filled in big time and was a great now – on two Slater Champs in football. Music director Fran Laplaca must have mentioned to husband Tom that she was thinking about adding some male voices to the chorus. Tom offered the job to his football guard and John was the first ever deep male voice in Fair Haven chorus.

When they started senior chorus, Fran was my neighbor and asked me to join. She had heard me playing guitar and harmonica and singing to the little kids on the block at my mom's.

John sat behind me with a great group of deep rich bass voices: Steve Whalen, Rick Buxton, Bob Dollar and John. Boy, did it add a full choral sound. This would never have happened without the mild-mannered Mr. Smith.

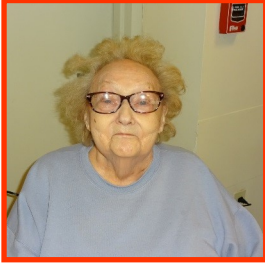
May God be with you, John.

You get what I mean...."Twig Remembers"



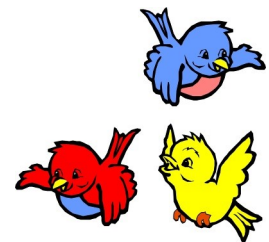
Robert "Twig" Canfield

A Day at the Hair and Nail Salon



The Deluxe Package - Hair and Nails

Before and After



For the Birds— Veterans and Members paint bird houses

